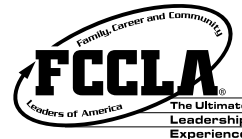


Choose Your Role



People in teams play many different roles. Some roles help the team accomplish its goals. Other roles can cause the team to stumble on its way to success. Can you recognize helpful and harmful team roles?

Draw a line to match each role to the sample phrase that a person in that role might say. Then, draw “+” next to the roles that are helpful and “-” next to the harmful roles. Which roles will you choose to build teams?

Team Roles

Initiator— offers suggestions; gets things going

Moderator— makes sure everyone participates

Avoider— won’t get involved in the team

Information Seeker— asks questions about the situation

Blocker— rejects all ideas and interferes with progress

Distracter— draws attention away from the team and its vision

Information Giver— answers questions about the situation

Encourager— praises members for their ideas

Harmonizer— promotes group togetherness

Dominator— tries to control the team

Summarizer— pulls together information and reviews progress

Sample Phrases

“That’s a great idea, Kim!”

“I have an idea—let’s teach little kids about safety.”

“Where will we learn how to do this?”

“That’s a stupid idea.”

“So far we have heard lots of ideas and agreed to focus on safety.”

“We haven’t heard from Christopher yet. I bet he has an opinion.”

“Let’s stay calm. We still need to get the job done and getting mad doesn’t help.”

“Don’t ask me. I don’t care.”

“I know where to find information about this in FCCLA resources and online.”

“Hey, did you guys see MTV last night?”

“If you want to do it right, listen to me.”



Source: Roles and phrases adapted from *Building Leaders for Life* (Reston, VA.: National Association of Secondary School Principals, 1992).